Utilisation of limestone Mines Welfare Cess Fund

1226. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state in what manner the limestone Mines Welfare Cess Fund has been utilised during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The Limestone & Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund has been set up for the financing of activities to promote the welfare of persons employed in the Limestone & Dolomite Mines. Various welfare schemes have been evolved to provide for medical, educational, recreational, housing and Water Supply facilities.

The 'Headwise' details of expenditure during 1984-85, 1985-86 & 1986-87 are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund yearwise expenditure figures

(Rupees in lakhs)

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Administration	15.79	17.01	23.94
Health	27.46	34.66	44.10
Education	6.17	8.17	21.64
Recreation	7.51	10.49	11.93
Housing (Subsidy)	21.49	29.24	25.94
Water Supply	1.87	7.21	3.53
Loans for Housing	—	0.16	0.15
TOTAL :	80.29	106.94	131.23

Reported shortage of houses in the country

1227. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 8th December, 1987 under the caption "Housing shortage runs to 24m units";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that shortage of houses and slum population in the country is rapidly increasing; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in this regard and what steps Government have taken/propose to take to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on the 1981 Census data, the NBO has estimated the housing needs as on 1st March, 1981 at 23.3 millions. This is likely to reach at 28.5 millions by 1988. The slum population estimated at 29.9 million in 1981 is expected to go up to 51.49 million in 1991.

(c) Housing & Urban Developments are State subjects and all social housing Schemes are implemented by the States/UT Admns. themselves according to their needs and plan priorities. Central financial assistance is given to the States/UT Admns. in the shape of block loans and block grants without being tied to any